

Appln No. 09/690,063

Amdt date July 31, 2003

Reply to Office action of March 31, 2003

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please add the following new paragraph on page 1, line 22 before the heading entitled "FIELD OF THE INVENTION":

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The present application contains subject matter related to the subject matter in the following commonly assigned copending patent applications: U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/585,025, filed June 1, 2000 and entitled "ONLINE VALUE BEARING ITEM PRINTING", 09/688,451, filed October 16, 2000 and entitled "AUDITING METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AN ON-LINE VALUE-BEARING ITEM PRINTING SYSTEM", 09/688,452, filed October 16, 2000 and entitled "ROLE ASSIGNMENTS IN A CRYPTOGRAPHIC MODULE FOR SECURE PROCESSING OF VALUE-BEARING ITEMS"; 09/688,456, filed October 16, 2000 and entitled "CRYPTOGRAPHIC MODULE FOR SECURE PROCESSING OF VALUE BEARING ITEMS"; 09/690,066, filed October 16, 2000 and entitled "CRYPTOGRAPHIC MODULE FOR SECURE PROCESSING OF VALUE-BEARING ITEMS"; 09/690,243, filed October 17, 2000 and entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ON-LINE VALUE-BEARING ITEM SYSTEM", 09/690,796, filed October 17, 2000 and entitled "SECURE AND RECOVERABLE DATABASE FOR ON-LINE VALUE-BEARING ITEM SYSTEM", 09/692,746, filed October 18, 2000 and entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DIGITALLY SIGNING AN ADVERTISEMENT AREA NEXT TO A VALUE-BEARING ITEM", 09/692,829, filed October 18, 2000 and entitled "POSTAL SYSTEM INTRANET AND COMMERCE PROCESSING FOR AN ON-LINE VALUE BEARING SYSTEM", 09/788,069 filed February 16, 2001 and entitled "ON-LINE VALUE-BEARING INDICIUM PRINTING USING DSA", and 10/083,236 filed February 26, 2002 and entitled "SECURED CENTRALIZED PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE", and published U.S. Application Nos. 2001/0034716 A1, published on October 25, 2001 entitled "SECURE ON-LINE TICKETING" and 2002/0023057 A1, published on February 21, 2002 and entitled "WEB-ENABLED VALUE BEARING ITEM PRINTING".